

JOSEPH A. RASBAND

Joseph A. Rasband was born in Heber City to Thomas and Elizabeth Giles Rasband on March 17, 1867. Joseph passed away July 21, 1945, from an accident involving a hay loader. Eliza Jeffs was born in Heber City to Mark and Mary Carlile Jeffs on September 4, 1870, and died September 18, 1943, in Heber City.

Joseph A. Rasband and Eliza Ann Jeffs

were among the promising and popular young people of Heber in 1890. Eliza had been attending the Brigham Young Academy, a rare opportunity in those days. Joseph worked with his father on the farm and did some produce freighting between Heber and Park City, where two of his brothers were operating a grocery business.

JOSEPH A. AND ELIZA ANN JEFFS RASBAND

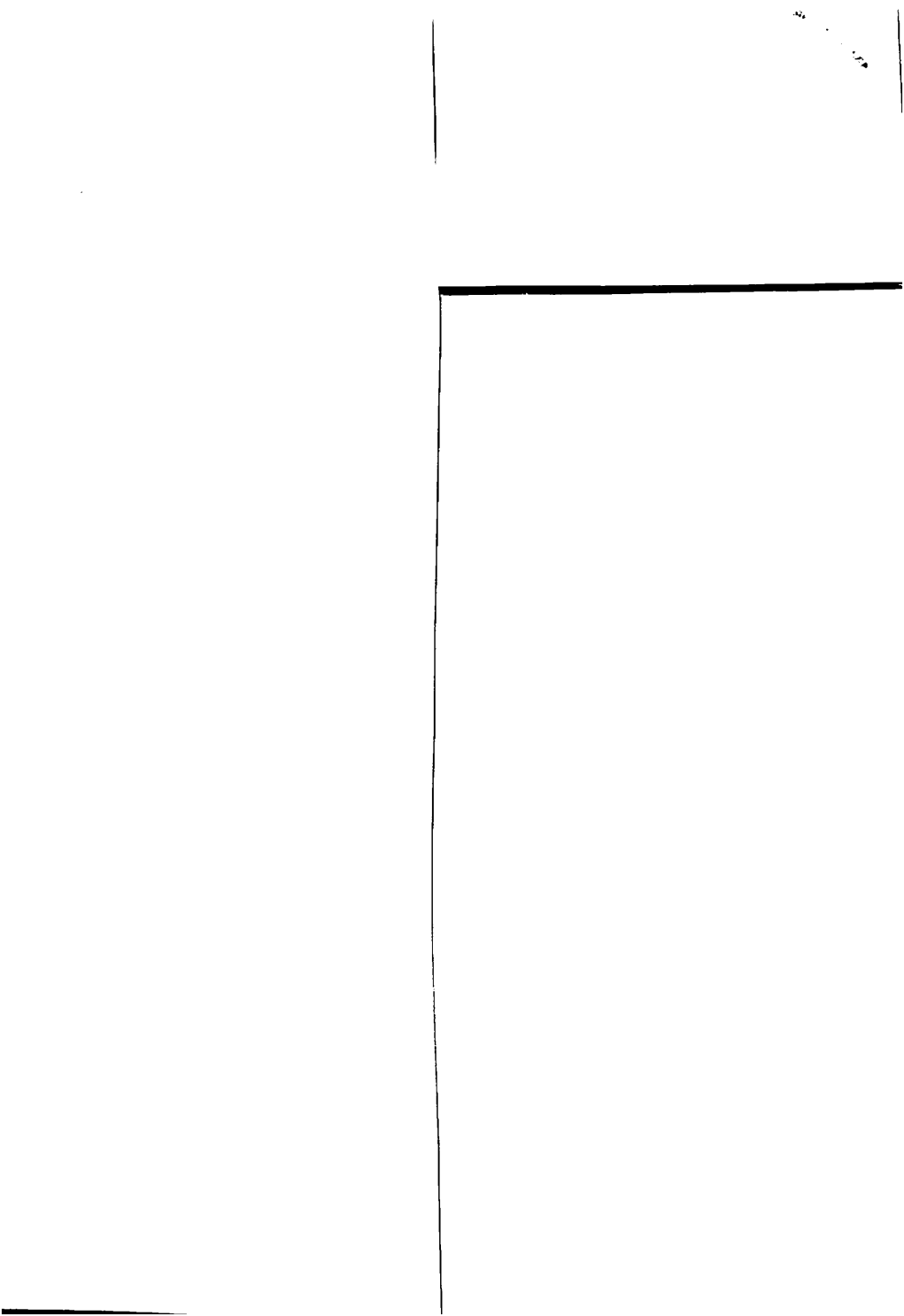


On December 3, 1890, this young couple boarded a train at Park City for Logan, where they were united in marriage in the temple. Upon returning home they were given a wedding dinner and dance in the Turner Hall.

In 1893, Joseph received a call to go on a mission to the Samoan Islands for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These islands were unknown then. It was necessary to have the school principal, Henry M. Aird, help them locate the islands on the map. Their first child, Sylvan, was just over a year old. It was decided Joseph's mother would tend the baby and Eliza would work in her father's store (Mark Jeffs' Store) to support her husband on his mission.

Eliza started out as a clerk in her father's store when she was very young. Her father started his business in a room of the family home where the yardage and dry goods was measured on the bedstead and stored under the bed. She continued to be his clerk and helper until he had a thriving business on Main Street. When her husband returned from his mission, Eliza had bought five calves and had saved enough money to buy a buggy and a cow.

After three years of faithful labor, Joseph came back to his home and brought a little Samoan girl with him. Her family was ex-



pecting to come later. Eliza accepted the little girl as a member of the family and reared her along with her other children as one of them.

Eliza was born September 4, 1870, to Mark and Mary Carlile Jeffs. She was the oldest of three little girls born to this couple. When they were very young their mother died. In the course of time their father married Sarah Ann Chatwin, who was a faithful and true mother to these little girls. To this union five other children were born.

Eliza was always a faithful member and enthusiastic worker in the Church. At a very young age she became secretary to Mary C. Willis in the Primary Association. At the age of 18 she was chosen president of the Heber West Ward YWMIA, and some years later was counselor in the presidency of the stake YWMIA, and then became president of the organization. She served for years as first counselor in the stake Relief Society, with Mima Broadbent as president and Clara Clyde as second counselor. She was president of the Heber Second Ward Primary three years. Eliza was an inspiration to her husband and always his support through his busy life. She was an efficient homemaker and a faithful and true mother. She passed away September 18, 1943.

Joseph's parents were among those pioneers who, with their families, spent the first winter in Heber Valley. Their home was at 288 North Main Street and it was here Joseph made his home after his marriage until it was sold to Joseph Olpin for his mortuary. The Rasbands then built a new home just south of the Olpins.

After Joseph returned from his mission he was employed in the Mark Jeff's Store. Some years later, when Mr. Jeffs answered a call to go on a mission to England, Joseph was made manager of the store. When the Mark Jeff's Store was sold and incorporated as the Heber Mercantile, Joseph Rasband was appointed general manager and held this position for thirty years. During that time the business prospered and paid substantial dividends to the stockholders. About 1936 the store was razed by fire, then rebuilt under different management.

Soon after returning from his mission, Joseph was called on a three-month mission in Salt Lake and Weber stakes, served as a

home missionary in Wasatch Stake, and was a member of the Wasatch Stake Sunday School Board. In 1901 he became a member of the Wasatch Stake High Council. In 1903, when three wards were created in Heber from the East and West Wards, Joseph became the first bishop of Heber Second Ward. He served in this capacity 23 years. During the early years of his administration as bishop, the Heber Second Ward chapel was erected, through his untiring efforts and great enthusiasm, in record time. It was dedicated December 26, 1915.

He also gave of his time and talents in a community way, serving a term as mayor of Heber City (1904-06), and president of the Wasatch National Farm Loan Assn.

He, with his sons, have accumulated 15 years of foreign missionary service for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"Joseph A. Rasband was a friend of everyone, and he found joy in ministering to the poor and visiting the sick. He never forced people to live his ideas, but led them into doing things that were right. He lived for the masses and helped solve their problems. He avoided the publicity of high positions and discouraged the flattery of his friends. He overcame the tendency to selfishness and jealousy and rejoiced in the success of all. He was one of this community's most dearly beloved citizens. He was a good man and will long be remembered in the community by the works he left behind."

Joseph A. and Eliza Rasband were parents of 10 children. Eight of them are living in Heber at present (1959). They are: J. Sylvan, Walter J., Heber M., Reed, Mary, Irving K., Mima, Lincoln, Mark E. and Arthur.

THOMAS RASBAND AND ELIZABETH GILES RASBAND

Thomas Rasband was the son of John Rasband and Mary Henderson, and was born December 21, 1818, at Hinkley, Northwickshire, England, and baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by James Goodwin on August 30, 1850. He married Elizabeth Giles at Lincoln, England, in the St. Mark's Church, on January 25, 1847.

Elizabeth was the daughter of William